

Air Resources Board

Gray Davis

Alan C. Lloyd, Ph.D. Chairman

1001 I Street • P.O. Box 2815 • Sacramento, California 95812 • www.arb.ca.gov

January 5, 2001

Dear Members of California's Agricultural Community:

The California Air Resources Board (ARB) invites you to participate in a series of public consultation meetings with the agricultural community to initiate dialogue on implementation of the Risk Reduction Plan to Reduce Particulate Matter Emissions from Diesel-Fueled Engines and Vehicles (Diesel Risk Reduction Plan). The meetings will be held in eight locations throughout California in February and March.

On September 28, 2000, the ARB approved the Diesel Risk Reduction Plan that outlines a comprehensive program to further reduce emissions and resultant health risks associated with emissions of diesel particulate matter (diesel PM). This comprehensive program consists of:

- Developing additional regulatory emissions standards for all new on-road, off-road, and stationary diesel-fueled engines and vehicles that will reduce diesel PM emissions by an overall 90 percent from current levels;
- Developing retrofit requirements for existing on-road, off-road, and stationary diesel-fueled engines and vehicles that will reduce diesel PM emissions from these engines; and
- 3. Developing requirements to reduce the sulfur content of diesel fuel so that on-road, off-road, and stationary diesel-fueled engines will be able to use the low-sulfur diesel fuel needed by advanced diesel PM control technology.

The Diesel Risk Reduction Plan recommends all diesel-fueled engines and vehicles in California to be evaluated for potential controls, including engines used in agricultural operations. We recognize that agriculture is a vital component of California's economic future and we are sensitive to the economic impacts of this program. As we move forward in implementing the Diesel Risk Reduction Plan, we will work closely with the agricultural community to develop practical and affordable solutions that achieve the greatest pollution reduction for the dollars invested. In addition, we intend to explore the use of voluntary programs and economic incentives to assist and support our regulatory efforts.

These consultation meetings will provide the agricultural community the opportunity to learn more about the Diesel Risk Reduction Plan, what it means for agricultural diesel engines, and how to participate in the development of requirements for diesel engines

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used in agriculture. Ample time will be provided for questions and answers. The locations, dates, and times for the meetings are provided in the table below. A preliminary agenda is also enclosed with this notice.

Agricultural Consultation Meetings to Discuss Implementation of the Diesel Risk Reduction Plan

| Location | Date | Time |
|--|-------------------|----------------------|
| Yolo County Farm Bureau 69 West Kentucky Avenue Woodland, CA | February 8, 2001 | 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM |
| Tehama County Elks Lodge 355 Gilmore Road Red Bluff, CA | February 9, 2001 | 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM |
| Fresno County Farm Bureau 1274 West Hedges Fresno, CA | February 15, 2001 | 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM |
| Kern County Farm Advisory Office 1031 S. Mount Vernon Avenue Bakersfield, CA | February 16, 2001 | 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM |
| Imperial County Farm Bureau 1000 Broadway El Centro, CA | February 21, 2001 | 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM |
| Ventura County Air Pollution Control District 669 County Square Drive, 1 st floor California Conference Room Ventura, CA | March 6, 2001 | 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM |
| Riverside County Farm Bureau 21160 Box Springs Road, Suite 102 Moreno Valley, CA | March 7, 2001 | 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM |
| Monterey County Richard W. Nutter Agricultural Conference Center 1432 Abbott Street Salinas, CA | March 14, 2001 | 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM |

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We hope you are able to participate in the consultation meeting nearest you and we look forward to hearing your ideas and opinions on implementing the Diesel Risk Reduction Plan. Information on the consultation meetings, and any updates, will be listed in the "Outreach" and "Meetings" sections on the ARB's web site, i.e., http://www.arb.ca.gov/toxics/diesel/diesel.htm. Additional information about the Diesel Risk Reduction Plan is also available at this web site. If you have any questions about the Diesel Risk Reduction Plan or the upcoming consultation meetings with the agricultural community, please call Ms. Linda Keifer at (916) 323-4327.

Sincerely,

/s/

Peter D. Venturini, Chief Stationary Source Division

Enclosure

cc: Manual Cunha, Jr., President Nisei Farmers league 1775 North Fine Fresno, California 93727

> Cynthia Cory, Director of Marketing and Labor California Farm Bureau Federation 1127 11 Street, Suite 626 Sacramento, California 95814

California Air Resources Board Agricultural Consultation Meeting to Discuss Implementation of the Diesel Risk Reduction Plan

Preliminary Agenda

- 1. Welcome and Introductions
- 2. The Diesel Risk Reduction Plan
- 3. Implementing the Plan What Does it Mean for Agricultural Operators?
- 4. Question and Answer Session

